

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 269245
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/CE:WMWOESSNER
APPROVED BY M:BHREAD
EUR:JEGOODBY
A/SY:VSTMARS
M/CT:KARKASHIAN
S/PRS JTRATTNER(SUBS)
L/EUR:JCROOK
S/S-O RPERITO

-----034705 100359Z /63

O 100241Z NOV 77 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BONN NIACT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 269245

EXDIS

E.O. 11652:XGDS-3

TAGS: ASEC, PINS, GW

SUBJECT: PLANNED ATTACKS ON LUFTHANSA

REF: (A) STATE 266580; (B) BONN 18669; (C) FRANKFURT 8499

1. ACTING UPON THE SECRETARY'S INSTRUCTION DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY READ TELEPHONED AMBASSADOR VON STADEN THIS EVENING AND MADE FOLLOWING POINTS TO HIM:
2. USG ASSESSES DANGER POSED BY TERRORIST ROCKET THREAT TO LUFTHANSA FLIGHTS MOST SERIOUSLY AND HAS NOW RECEIVED INDEPENDENT INTELLIGENCE FROM THIRD COUNTRY SOURCE WHICH REINFORCES THIS ASSESSMENT. LATTER HAS BEEN CONVEYED TO
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U.S. EMBASSY BONN TO BE SHARED WITH FRG.

3. AS A RESULT, WE HAVE FELT COMPELLED TO ADVISE REPEAT ADVISE USG PERSONNEL TO REFRAIN FROM USING LUFTHANSA FLIGHTS UNTIL IMMEDIATE POTENTIAL DANGER POSED BY STATED THREATS HAS EASED.

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4. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES WE FEEL UNDER INCREASINGLY HEAVY OBLIGATION, RECENTLY EMPHASIZED IN GENERAL TERMS BY CONGRESS FOR SUCH SITUATIONS, TO SEE THAT AMERICAN TRAVELING PUBLIC IS ALERTED.

5. WE RECOGNIZE THE DIFFICULT DILEMMAS THIS POSES FOR FRG. AS FRG KNOWS FROM MOST RECENT INCIDENTS WE PLACE IMPORTANCE ON SOLIDARITY OF COORDINATED ACTIONS BY OUR GOVERNMENT IN THESE MATTERS.

6. IN THE SITUATION AT HAND DEPARTMENT URGES FRG TO PUT OUT A FIRST PUBLIC ADVISORY ITSELF AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE ON NOVEMBER 10.

7. AMBASSADOR VON STADEN ASKED NO SIGNIFICANT QUESTIONS AND PROMISED TO CONVEY MESSAGE TO HIS GOVERNMENT IMMEDIATELY.

8. SUBSEQUENT TO READ/VON STADEN TELCON WE RECEIVED UNCLASSIFIED FAA SECURITY BULLETIN SENT INTER ALIA TO FRANKFURT FAA REPRESENTATIVE WHICH DESCRIBES TERMS OF MISSILE THREAT BASED ON INFORMATION PROVIDED BY GERMAN EMBASSY WASHINGTON AND LUFTHANSA SECURITY REPRESENTATIVE. BULLETIN DOES NOT, HOWEVER, PROVIDE FOR PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES LIKELIHOOD OF THIS INFORMATION BECOMING PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE VERY SOON MUST BE
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ASSUMED. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: AIRCRAFT HIJACKING, THREATS
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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 10-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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